

State of Utah DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Governor
Dee C. Hansen
Executive Director
Nielson, Ph.D.
Division Director

801-538-5340

October 29, 1991

0042

Mr. Glen Zumwalt, Manager Utah Fuel Company P. O. Box 719 Helper, Utah 84526

Dear Mr. Zumwalt:

Re: Flume Installation Amendment, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005-91B, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

On August 15, 1991 the Division issued approval for your flume installation amendment. It appears that we need to clarify what was approved and require you to make some changes to the amendment. The Forest Service objected to the wording of the amendment because it infers that mining will take place beneath perennial drainages. (Refer to the enclosed Forest Service letter addressed to Lowell Braxton which expresses their concerns.)

Please note that the Division's August 15th approval did not approve mining beneath perennial drainages. What was approved was the installation of the flumes for monitoring purposes only.

At this time you are required to revise the appropriate pages of this amendment to more accurately depict the flume installation and its purpose. All of the Forest Service's concerns (which includes a plan for studying the flow of Burnout Creek) must be addressed before this amendment can be considered complete. Please provide 12 copies of the revised pages by November 29, 1991 for distribution to other agencies.

Thank you in your cooperation in resolving this matter. If you have any questions, please call.

Sincerely,

Daton a Fladdock

Daron R. Haddock

Permit Supervisor

Enclosure

cc: George Morris, USFS

FLUMAMEN.SKY

an equal opportunity employer

Manti-La Sal National Forest West Price River Dr.
Price, Utah 84501

Reply to: 2820

Date: October 10, 1991

Lowell Braxton
State of Utah Natural Resources
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
355 West North Temple
3 Triad Center, Suite 350
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203

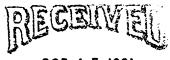
RE: Amendment, Flume Installation, Utah Fuel Company, Skyline Mine, ACT/007/005-91B, Folder #2, Carbon County, Utah

Dear Lowell:

On October 10, 1991, we received the subject amendment which has already been approved by the Division (August 15, 1991). The amendment, as written, does not accurately reflect the intent of the flume study. In addition, full extraction mining under Upper Huntington Creek and Burnout Creek has not been approved by the Division or consented to by the Forest Service (Letter from the Division to Utah Fuel Company, dated September 11, 1991).

The amendment on page 4-82 assumes that full extraction mining has been approved or will be approved under Burnout Creek and Upper Huntington Creek and that the amendment is intended to study the effects of such mining. It states: " A special three year subsidence monitoring program will be conducted to study the general effects of subsidence related to full extraction coal mining on stream flows in the upper reaches of Upper Huntington Creek and Burnout Creek drainages". The amendment further states: "The results of this special monitoring program will be used to project future mining areas beneath small perennial and perennial streams and to determine the effects, if any, of full extraction mining on perennial streams in this area". Map 2.3.6-1 identifies subsidence points in the stream channels to be monitored.

The purpose of the flumes is to monitor the flow in Burnout Creek and determine if it is a perennial drainage. This information, once collected will be used to determine if the Division would approve and the Forest Service would consent to mining under this drainage. In our meetings on this subject, it was decided that Utah Fuel Company would submit a plan for studying the flow of Burnout Creek for this purpose. We have not, to date, received such a study plan.



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DIVISION OF OIL GAS & MINING In our meetings with Dave Darby of the Division, it was agreed that the flume locations could be approved but that it must be made clear in the approval correspondence that approval of flume installation in no way constitutes approval of mining under perennial drainages.

The Forest Service will not consent to the amendment until it is revised to address the concerns discussed above.

If you have any questions, contact Aaron Howe, or Carter Reed at the Forest Supervisor's Office in Price, Utah.

Sincerely,

for

GEORGE A. MORRIS Forest Supervisor

cc:

Glen Zumwalt, Manager Utah Fuel Company P.O. Box 719 Helper, Utah 84526